

REMARKS

This amendment is filed in response to an outstanding office action mailed April 4, 2003. In that non-final Office Action, Claims 1-25 were presented for examination. Initially, a requirement for restriction was made and applicant elected to prosecute the claims of Group 1, Claims 1-13 drawn to a surgical clip. Claims 14-25 were withdrawn without prejudice to further prosecute these claims in divisional application(s).

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-13 were examined. Notwithstanding differences noted in paragraph 7 of the Office Action Summary, it appears that Claims 3-4, 6-9, and 12-13 have been objected to with the remaining claims rejected on cited art.

In accordance with the instant amendment, Claims 1-2, 5 and 14-25 have been canceled; allowable Claims 3, 6 and 12 have been placed in independent form; and the remaining claims have been made dependent on these allowable claims. In addition, new claims 26-37 have been added to the application and made dependable on allowable Claims 3 or 12.

As presently submitted, all of the claims remaining in the application should be in condition for allowance. The Examiner's reconsideration of the application is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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